

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

A listing of the claims presented in this patent application appears below. This listing replaces all prior versions and listings of the claims in this patent application.

1. (Currently Amended) A non gelatin polymeric film, comprising a non gelatin polymer and a barrier composition comprising an organic acid or a salt thereof ~~an organic acid~~.

2. (Currently Amended) A non gelatin polymeric film according to claim 1, wherein the ~~film comprises non gelatin polymer~~ polymer is selected from the group consisting ~~one or more of~~ HPMC, MHEC, HEC, EHEC, EC and ~~or~~ MC or a combination thereof.

3. (Currently Amended) A non gelatin polymeric film according to claim 1, wherein the non gelatin polymer is HPMC, ~~comprising hydroxypropyl methyl cellulose~~ ~~and a barrier composition comprising an organic acid or a salt of an organic acid~~.

4. (Currently Amended) A ~~hydroxypropyl methyl cellulose~~ HPMC film, comprising ~~hydroxypropyl methyl cellulose~~ HPMC and a barrier composition comprising an organic acid or a salt thereof ~~of an organic acid~~.

5. (Currently Amended) A non gelatin polymeric film according to claim 1, wherein the organic acid is a carboxylic acid or a salt thereof.

6. (Currently Amended) A non gelatin polymeric film according to claim 1, wherein, the organic acid ~~comprises one or more of~~ is selected from the group consisting of maleic acid, fumaric acid, adipic acid, citric acid, and lactic acid.

7. (Currently Amended) A non gelatin polymeric film according to claim 1, wherein the organic acid comprises citric acid.

8. (Currently Amended) A non gelatin polymeric film according to claim 1, wherein the organic acid comprises malic acid.

9. (Currently Amended) A non gelatin polymeric film according to claims 1[-5]or 3, wherein the organic acid is present in the amount in the range of about 5 to 40% by weight of the total weight of the film.

10. (Currently Amended) A non gelatin polymeric film according to claims 3, ~~1-6~~ comprising about 23% by weight of organic acid and 77% by weight of HPMC.

11. (Currently Amended) A non gelatin polymeric film according to ~~any one of the preceding~~ claims 1, wherein the film is foamed, expanded or gasified.

12. (Currently Amended) A non gelatin polymeric film according to ~~any one of the preceding~~ claims 1, wherein the film has a thickness of between 20 to 250 microns.

13. (Currently Amended) A non gelatin polymeric film according to ~~any one of the preceding~~ claims 1, 3, or 6 wherein the film is additionally treated with a solution comprising one or more acids ~~as defined in any previous claim~~ selected from the group consisting of maleic acid, fumaric acid, adipic acid, citric acid, lactic acid, and salts thereof.

14. (Currently Amended) A ~~two-ply~~ film comprising made from two non gelatin polymeric ~~the~~ films according to ~~any previous claims 1,~~ wherein the ~~2 two~~ films are bonded to one another by a solution comprising one or more acids ~~as defined in any previous claim and/or further treated with said acids~~ selected from the group consisting of maleic acid, fumaric acid, adipic acid, citric acid, lactic acid, and salts thereof.

15. (Currently Amended) A delivery capsule with an enclosing wall comprising a non gelatin polymeric film according to claims 1, ~~of composition in accordance with any one of the preceding claims.~~

16. (Currently Amended) A method of producing HPMC film suitable for forming ~~into a~~ delivery capsule, comprising the step of treating the HPMC film with an organic acid or a salt thereof ~~acids in any preceding claim, before and/or during when the film is formed into a capsule.~~

17. (Currently Amended) A delivery capsule, whose walls provide a continuous barrier for protecting and containing the capsule's contents, said continuous

barrier comprising: ~~a)~~ a non-gelatin polymeric film, and ~~b)~~ an organic acid.

18. (Canceled).

19. (Currently Amended) A delivery capsule as defined in claim 16, wherein the organic acid is a carboxylic acid.

20. (Currently Amended) A method of treating a non gelatin polymeric film comprising the steps of: a) making a solution of one or more organic acids; and b) applying said solution to the surface or surfaces of said non gelatin polymeric film.

21. (Currently Amended) A method of treating a non gelatin polymeric film according to claim 20, wherein said film comprises HPMC. ~~hpme film comprising the steps of: a) making a solution of one or more organic acids b) applying said solution to the surface or surfaces of said HPMC film.~~

22. (Currently Amended) A method of treating a non gelatin polymeric film according to claim 21, wherein said solution of one or more organic acids comprises ~~hpme film comprising: a) making a solution of one or more carboxylic acids b) applying said solution to the surface or surfaces of said film.~~

23. (Currently Amended) A delivery capsule having ~~an~~ whose walls, wherein said walls have adsorbed or absorbed, from the outer side of the walls, a barrier

solution comprising one or more carboxylic acids.

24. (Currently Amended) A delivery capsule having walls, wherein said walls comprise an outerpart and an innerpart, and further wherein said ~~whose walls~~ have a gradation in concentration of one or more carboxylic acids, through the thickness of the walls.

25. (Currently Amended) A delivery capsule according to claim 24 ~~whose walls have a gradation in concentration of one or more carboxylic acids, through the thickness of the wall,~~ wherein the outerpart of the walls possesses the most concentration of one or more carboxylic acids and the inner part of the walls possesses the most concentration of one or more carboxylic acids.

26. (Currently Amended) A delivery capsule according to claim 24 ~~whose walls have a gradation in concentration of one or more carboxylic acids, through the thickness of the wall,~~ wherein the inner part of the walls possesses the most concentration of one or more carboxylic acids and the outer part of the walls possesses the least concentration of one or more carboxylic acids.